FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 DECEMBER 1985

Iranian Foreign Minister's Visit to Saudi Arabia

The Saudi leaders did not detect any development in the Iranian stance that would imply a "possible positive move" toward ending the Iran-Iraq war, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal stated in remarks reported by Riyadh television after the conclusion of Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati's visit to Saudi Arabia. Referring to Iraq's "clear and stable stance" in favor of a "peaceful and just solution," Sa'ud al-Faysal said Saudi Arabia still hopes that Iran will adopt a stance "with similar logic" to save further bloodshed. As for the other issues discussed, he asserted that views were "similar" on the Palestinian problem and Afghanistan.

For Iran's part, Velayati described the talks as satisfactory, according to Tehran radio, which noted that he stopped over for a short visit to the UAE en route for Tehran. Velayati revealed that he would deliver a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan concerning bilateral relations, WAKH reported.

Iran-Iraq War

A General Command communique carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi planes attacked Iranian troop concentrations in several sectors and scored "direct hits" on Khark Island 9 December.

Israel

A fire which killed eight IDF soldiers and injured seven others at an IDF base in "Samaria" was apparently an accident caused by an unextinguished candle, Jerusalem radio reported. The commander of the IDF Central Command said it is unlikely that the fire was caused by a terrorist attack, the radio noted. Nevertheless, the PLO claimed responsibility in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, asserting that a PLO group detonated an explosion which caused the fire.

Lebanon

Implementation of a new security plan for West Beirut will begin 11 December, Prime Minister Rashid Karami announced in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio. The force assigned for the talks consists of 850 men from the Army and Internal Security Forces, Voice of Lebanon radio stated. Meanwhile, doctors at the American University of Beirut (AUB) Hospital decided to go on strike until two kidnapped AUB doctors are released, according to the radio.

Sudan

A Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) spokesman denied a government claim that 400 SPLA soldiers were killed 6 December in the Ingessana Hills, the clandestine SPLA radio reported. The spokesman added that the SPLA's capture of a battalion commander in the battle makes a "mockery" of the claim and that the SPLA forces in the Ingessana Hills will remain there. In a separate incident, Kuwait's *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, citing an Egyptian military source, revealed that 2 Egyptian soldiers and 17 rebels were killed 5 December when SPLA forces clashed with Egyptian commandos who were protecting an Egyptian engineering unit working on the Jong'i canal scheme, according to KUNA.

Libya

In further Libyan reportage of the alleged U.S. "provocation" over Crete, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio stated that U.S. military aircraft buzzed a Libyan civilian airliner.

OPEC Geneva Meeting

The OPEC oil ministers decided to secure and defend a "fair share" of the world oil market consistent with the member-countries' "necessary income," the organization announced in a press statement carried by OPECNA. Without referring to pricing policy, the statement also announced the formation of a "special committee" that will examine how to achieve the "fair share" objective. In remarks cited by the same agency, chairman of the new committee Arturo Grisanti, the Venezuelan oil minister and president of the Geneva conference, asserted that OPEC does not lack ways to defend its market position, pointing specifically to the cartel's 60 percent share of internationally traded oil.

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Further Reportage on Leaders Speeches at SARC Summit

Bhutanese King's Address

BK091139 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1006 GMT 8 Dec 85

[Bhutanese King Jigme Singye Wangchuk's address in English at the SARC summit closing session in Dhaka on 8 December — live]

[Excerpts] Mr Chairman, distinguished heads of state and government, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

It is with great pleasure that I extend to you, Mr Chairman, my warm congratulations on the skillful manner in which you guided our deliberatins.

Mr Chairman, the concept of regional cooperation has taken a concrete shape with the establishment of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. It is a manifestation of our collective wisdom and political will to bring about meaningful regional cooperation in spite of differences in foreign policy and security perception. We have established a viable forum for regular consultations on all issues of mutual concern in preference of a common aim to promote peace, progress, and prosperity.

The Kingdom of Bhutan pledges its full support to the Charter which enshrines the objectives, principles, and institutional framework of the organization. All officials who had a hand in drafting this document must be commended for the excellent work that they have done. The Charter reflects our determined commitment to embark on a collective voyage of cooperation in order to promote the social, cultural, and economic development of a region in a climate of peace and stability. We strongly support the declaration which will be issued by the summit.

In our view, the essence of the declaration is that all seven of us, setting aside our differences, fully respecting each other's sovereignty and freedom of independent judgment, are determined to work together both within and outside the region to promote the welfare of our people. This document is testimony to our faith in the ability of ourregional organization, to improve the quality of lives of our people, and to promote trust and understanding among ourselves.

It has always been an important objective in the foreign policy of Bhutan to develop close ties of friendship and cooperation with all our neighboring countries in our quest for regional peace and stability.

What we have accomplished here is not a local event affecting only South Asia but a new and dramatic development affecting the entire world. Collectively with our vast human and natural resources, we now have the potential to exert a positive influence on the future direction of our global community.

I am confident that the vision, which brought us together, will continue to sustain and inspire, and that the establishment of SARC will herald the dawn of a new era of peace, friendship, and cooperation in South Asia. I wish you all best of (?luck). Thank you, Mr Chairman. [Applause]

Maldives President Speaks

BK091149 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1017 GMT 8 Dec 85

[Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom's Address in English at SARC Summit Closing Ceremony on 8 December — live]

[Excerpt] Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim [In the name of God, the most beneficent, the most merciful].

Mr chairman, your majesties, excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

At the time I offered congratulations to you, Mr Chairman, on being elected to the chair, I described this meeting as being historic. I think we can, at this hour of its conclusion, all agree that that description was well justified. We have taken the important step of formally establishing a regional framework comprising our seven nations. We have also proclaimed its Charter which spells out the principal aims and goals that we will be working together to achieve for [as heard] the common good of our peoples, for strengthening understanding and cooperation between our countries, and for maintaining peace and stability in our region. This has demonstrated beyond any doubt our resolve and the courage of our convictions, and that the future course we will chalk for our region with the newly founded South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation as a framework of our cooperation is not in any question.

The decisions that we have taken at Dhaka will have far-reaching effects on the future of our region. By our very presence here and by virtue of the political will we have expressed, I believe that we have moved closer to the goals and the aims enshrined in the Charter. Our achievements here at Dhaka have laid strong foundation upon which we can all build. They have also generated an impetus which we must not permit to falter. For if we do, we will certainly be failing in our duties. We have assembled here in the name of our peoples, and it must be clearly demonstrated to them that this summit meeting was no false dawn. Neither must the opportunity be lost in utilizing the occasion to declare to the international community that we are determined to implement those initiatives we have taken to bolster the sovereignty of our individual states and enhance the total independence of our region. We must give a clear signal that these objectives are as important to us as they are important to others; that we collectively have a united will to promote the welfare and progress of our peoples; that our deliberations have been, the success they have, [as heard] is due in no small measure to the efforts made by you, Mr Chairman, and the sincere support and cooperation extended to you by all my distinguished colleagues. For all that has been done for our comfort and convenience. We owe a profound debt of gratitude to you, Mr Chairman, and president of Bangladesh and to the government and people of this great and hospitable country which I now record and, indeed, express.

Karmal Receives Nurestan People's Assembly Members
LD091920 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, yesterday received members of the Nurestan People's Assembly at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council.

At this meeting, Babrak Karmal spoke in detail about the humane aims of the April Revolution, the importance of the resolutions of the historical Grand Assembly of Afghanistan, the high assembly of the tribes, the local elections, and also the statement of the Revolutionary Council. He specified the duties of the assembly of the noble people of Nurestan for the maintenance of security and their further cooperation with state.

During this friendly talk, Babrak Karmal also heard about the local needs of the people of Nurestan. This report was presented by two of their representatives. Karmal gave necessary instructions to officials for the removal of these problems and needs.

At the end of the meeting, the members of the Nurestan assembly pledged that they will spare no effort to defend the April Revolution according to the resolutions of the Grand Assembly, the High Assembly of the Tribes, and the staement of the Revolutionary Council, in order to normalize the situation in their region.

Dost Leaves for Geneva Talks With Pakistan
LD092246 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs, left Kabul today at the head of the DRA delegation to take part in the talks due to be held in Geneva between the DRA and Pakistan through Diego Cordovez, deputy and envoy of the UN secretary general.

Present at the Kabul international airport to see them off were: Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce; deputy ministers; and a number of high ranking officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Soviet Supreme Court Delegation Arrives in Kabul
LD092221 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] A delegation of the USSR's Supreme Court, headed by Supreme Court Deputy Chairman Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Smolentsev, arrived in Kabul this afternoon at the invitation of the DRA Supreme Court for a friendly and official visit.

The delegation was welcomed at Kabul international airport by Nezamoddin Tazib, chairman of the Supreme Court; Gol Dad, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Mohammad Bashir Baghlani, attorney general and minister of justice; the deputy chairman of the supreme court; and the Soviet ambassador in Kabul.

251 Armed Men Surrender To Security Forces
LD100325 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] Recently, a group of 251 armed men from Ghowrmach district and headed by Hiji Zekrya Khan, Kamaluddin Khan, and Shanawaz Khan surrendered to the security forces of Badghis province.

They pledged to fight to the end for the welfare of the people, the blossoming of the country, and the realization of the lofty aims of the April Revolution.

Pakistani Generals Plotting Against Vazir Tribes
LD100636 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0530 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] Kabul, December 9, BAKHTAR — In the wake of the incursion [word indistinct] the tribes of Khyber, the generals of the military regime of Pakistan have formulated plans for aggression against the tribes of Ahmad Zaye of Vazir, located between Afghanistan and Pakistan, reports reaching here say.

The reports add that the militarists of Pakistan strive to divert the free tribes of their traditional freedoms by construction of military fortifications throughout the free tribes region. The regime has started to construct roads in the free tribes regions for military expeditions, which has been confronted with strong resistance of the tribes. A fierce confrontation of the Pakistani forces with the tribes ended in the wounding of a Pakistani engineer and the arrest of a large number of elders of the Ahmad Zaye tribe.

Making use of the incident, the regime wants to ensure conditions for military interference in the region of southern Vazirabad. The reports add that the dwelling of Maliu Ajab Khan Ahmadbaye, one of the elders of Vazir, has been besieged and a large number of [word indistinct] tribesmen have become ready for confrontation with the military regime of Pakistan.

Malik Ajab Khan Wazir has warned the Pakistani generals to avoid aggression on the people of Vazirad, otherwise the consequences of their attempts would be grave.

Pakistan's Zia Meets Ershad, Hands Over Relief Goods

BK091727 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan called on President Ershad at Banga Bhavan in Dhaka this evening. The two leaders stayed together for some time.

President Zia handed over relief material worth over 2 and 1/2 crore Pakistani rupees for the cyclone affected people of Bangladesh to President Ershad. The relief goods and cash were collected by voluntary oranizations of Pakistan upon an appeal by President Zia on his return from his visit to Urir Char in June last. While handing over and receiving the material and the check, the two presidents expressed optimism that cooperation and fellow feelings between the two people will increase on SARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] spirit for mutual benefit of all. President Ershad thanked President Zia and the people of Pakistan for this gesture of good will.

Speaks With Newsmen

BK091331 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] Pakistan President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the SARC summit has forged greater understanding among the seven South Asian leaders that would definitely lead far reaching and salutory impact on the future state of bilateral relations. Speaking to a select gathering of newsmen at the Banga Bhavan in Dhaka today, the Pakistan president said bilateral issues were not raised during the talks but the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation — SARC — spirit would help ease tension between the neighbors if even the problems are not totally eliminated. He said the spirit of SARC is a sort of inspiration of seven countries put together for the betterment of the lives of their 1 billion people.

He said SARC at present is dominated by its economic component and politics has not place in the institution. But political matters could not be avoided since economic development is linked to political perception in this region. In what stage SARC will involved itself with political issues would depend on the statemanship of the leaders of the region, he said.

President Ziaul Haq said SARC was conceived in Dhaka and born in Dhaka after 5 years of hard work. It should be allowed to gain strength and consolidate itself. There is no hurry, he added.

The Pakistan president said informal consultations during the 4-hour river cruise yesterday was the most productive part of the 2 days of deliberations. He praised highly the organizational arrangement made by Bangladesh for the historic occasion, describing it as of a very high standard.

Replying to a question about nuclear developments in the region, President Ziaul Haq said this matter was not discussed with the Indian prime minister. However, he said all the leaders agreed that peace would be the basis for development in the region.

About Afghanistan, he said he was hopeful of a solution, but at the same time prepared to meet further incursions by Soviet-Afghan forces from across the border. Pakistan, he said, is determined to avoid any escalation of border fighting and would not retaliate in the hope of a solution.

About stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh, he said Pakistan fulfilled its legal obligation and was ready to contribute to the humanitarian aspect of the problem. He advised the stranded Pakistanis to have a little more patience.

Karachi Radio Reportage

BK091708 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [SARC] has a very bright future and it will greatly help in improving the standard of living of the 1 billion people of the region. He made this remark while addressing a news conference largely attended by correspondents in Dhaka today. In reply to a question, the president said that member countries have, for the time being, expressed readiness to put off the political aspect of regional cooperation and agreed to have a detailed review first of those issues which help promote bilateral and collective economic cooperation to achieve their desired end. As far as the economic aspects are concerned, the president said, the summit leaders have had informal exchanges of views on matters of mutual interest. They placed particular emphasis on how the seven countries can cooperate in establishing a new economic order. He said that nine committees of SARC are working on various topics. Two more committees have now been formed to deal with terrorism and durg trafficking. The president said that the SARC leaders exchanged views on terrorism during their river cruise yesterday and set up a review committee which will present its report to the foreign ministers. Effective steps will be taken to control drug trafficking and international terrorists on the recommendations of the foreign ministers.

The president said that all the leaders, including the Indian prime minister, agreed on the fact that peace or the promotion of peace is not only a necessity for SARC and its member countries, but also indispensable. All the leaders have agreed to establish peace in the region. He added that the establishment of peace and refraining from the use of force will bring the biggest success.

In reply to a question, the president said that he did not discuss the issue of imposing restrictions on nuclear weapons with the Indian prime minister. However, he had an informal exchange of views with other leaders on the matter. He said that he sincerely believes in abandoning the use of force and in the imposition of complete restriction on nuclear weapons. He said that this is a necessity for the region. The president said that his meeting with the Indian prime minister in Dhaka was of a social nature and that they had a cordial exchange of views.

When asked about the possibility of an Indian attack on Pakistan's nuclear installations, the president said that India is a friend of ours, and we do not expect such unfriendly action from a friendly neighboring country. He said such a step would be a

hostile act which would be considered an act of war against Pakistan.

In reply to another question, he said that misgivings on account of the size, industrial progress, or trade capabilities of any member of the organization is baseless. He said that they will not be rivals in the competition, but in fact, they will gain strength from each other.

On Afghanistan, the president said that although the issue was not mentioned in the [Dhaka] Declaration, we have however exchanged views on it during informal talks.

In reply to a question relating to violation of Pakistan's airspace and territory by the Karmal regime, the president said that several such incidents have occurred from across the border. However, no significant event has occurred so far. Innocent people have been bombarded, however, resulting in the loss of precious lives. He said that Afghanistan's internal situation is the cause of these incidents. Foreign forces in Afghanistan failed to subjugate the Afghan people during the last 6 years and the Karmal forces, frustrated by this, have committed large-scale violations of Pakistan's territory. The president emphatically said that Pakistan, as its policy so far, has decided not to take any retaliatatory step. We do not like to disturb the situation. If Pakistan were to take retaliatory measures, difficulties would be faced by the Afghan people themselves.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq met with Nepalese King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev in Dhaka this morning. During their half-hour meeting, they exchanged views on matters of mutual interest and regional and international issues. Later, the president also met with a group of foreign journalists.

The president has assured a delegation of nonlocals [Pakistani citizens stranded in Bangladesh after the 1971 war] that they will be repatriated as soon as the necessary arrangements are completed by the World Muslim League in this regard. He said that Pakistan had fulfilled its responsibility by taking back 275,000 nonlocals. In addition to this, it also accepted an extra 125,000 such people. The president said that the World Muslim league has been presented with a comprehensive program for the repatriation of an additional 250,000 nonlocals to Pakistan.

Foreign Policy Debate in Parliament; Bhagat Statement
BK091636 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] India has conveyed to Sri Lanka that only a negotiated political settlement of the ethnic issue can provide a lasting solution. India has also made it clear to the Sri Lankan authorities that it is against the military solution to the problem. This was stated by the external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, in the Lok Sabha today. He was replying to a debate on the international situation. He said India has told Sri Lanka that the continuing violence must stop and the military should be controlled.

On Pakistan, the minister pointed out that there are reports from various quarters that it is pursuing a nuclear weapons program. He said India is not going to sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty as it is discriminatory against the non-nuclear states.

Replying to a question, Mr Bhagat clarified that India is against the inspection of nuclear installations. He said President Ziaul Haq was invited to visit the Kalpakkam atomic plant for the inaugural ceremony and not for inspection. He informed the House that President Zia is now coming on the 17th and matters concerning trade and economic cooperation will be discussed.

Mr Bhagat did not agree with some opposition members that the purpose of the prime minister's visits abroad is to project him as a leader. He said these visits are necessary for personal contacts with world leaders as well as for strengthening forces of peace and stability in the world.

Earlier, moving a motion for the debate, Mr Bhagat described the formation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [SARC] as historic. He, however, cautioned agianst underestimating the difficulties in promoting regional cooperation, as the prejudices of the past and the differences in the perceptions have to be taken into account.

The external affairs minister told the House that Mr Rajiv Gandhi during the Dhaka summit had discussions with other leaders on both bilateral and multilateral issues. In his meeting with President Ershad of Bangladesh, a statisfaction was expressed at the present state of relations. Besides other matters, an understanding has been reached that India and Bangladesh will jointly deal with the Mizo, Chakma, and TULF [as heard] insurgencies.

During the discussion, members from all sides of the House hailed the formation of SARC. They hoped that it will usher in a new era in the region. Members also wanted the institution to be further strengthened and its scope enhanced. Some of them felt that a better climate would be created for solving bilarteral problems also. There were suggestions for setting up an Asian regional cooperation association and a forum of parliamentarians of all Asian countries.

Though the opposition members generally supported the foreign policy, they criticized the government on some aspects. They said our relations with the neighboring countries are not what they should be. The government has not been successful in persuading the United States to desist from providing arms to Paksitan.

Expressing concern over the nuclear arms race, members urged the government to take fresh initiative toward disarmament. There was a reference to the stand taken by the British Government on the "star wars" program and its decision to come out of UNESCO.

The continuing violence against Tamils in Sri Lanka was highlighted by some members who urged the government to persuade the Sri Lankan president to find an early solution to the problem. A ruling party member suggested reconsideration of our policy toward Sri Lanka.

Welcoming the steps for bilateral cooperation with the developed countries in the field of technology, some members hoped that this would help India in moving forward. There was a demand for finding a reasonable solution to the border issue with China. It was also stressed that the Afghanistan issue should be settled speedily in the larger interest of the region.

Referring to apartheid in South Africa, members wanted India to take a lead in ending the racist regime there.

Restrictions Extended in Chandigarh After Incidents
BK100403 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] In the union territory of Chandigarh, the ban on taking out processions and sitting on dharna [strike], assembly of five or more persons, and carrying of handbags into cinema houses under Section 144 has been extended till the 8th of next month. In view of sporadic incidents it has also been decided to impose a ban on carrying of firearms and lethal weapons in public places from the 11th of this month to the 9th of next month.

AFP: Court Orders Release of Akali Dal President
HK100830 Hong Kong AFP in English 0749 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 10 (AFP) — A court has ordered the release of the president of the militant faction of the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency reported here today. The agency said that the Punjab and Haryana High Court had ordered the release of Simranjit Singh Mann from detention yesterday.

Mr. Mann, formerly a top-ranking police officer, was appointed president of the United Akali Dal When the militant group was formally launched earlier this year. Mr. Mann was arrested while allegedly trying to cross the Indian border into Nepal earlier this year, and was subsequently kept in a maximum security prison in the desert state of Rajasthan in Northern India. The court ordered his release after his lawyers had argued that his detention was illegal on technical grounds.

The United Akali Dal opposes an accord between the moderate faction of the Akali Dal and the federal government that ended

an often violent Sikh campaign for greater autonomy for the Sikh homeland in the northern state of Punjab.

It was not immediately known when Mr. Mann would formally assume the presidency of the United Akali Dal.

Meanwhile, the release of Sikh prisoners in Punjab has caused tension between the federal government and the state government, which was formed by the moderate faction of the Akali Dal after it won state elections following the accord. Informed sources said that the Punjab government had freed more than 400 Sikhs and recommended more than 600 for release.

Last week federal Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi expressed his displeasure with the release of Sikh prisoners and suggested that the state government should adopt a more cautious approach. Mr. Gandhi's remarks, made at a meeting here of members of his ruling Congress (I) Party, drew a sharp response from Punjab Chief Minister Surjeet Singh Barnala, who said he was aware of his responsibilities. "I am the chief minister. I know what I am doing," Mr. Barnala was quoted by newspapers as saying in reply to Mr. Gandhi's remarks.

Tripura Tribal 'Extremists' Kill 4, Injure 9

BK100830 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] In Tripura, at least four nontribals were killed and nine injured in an ambush by the outlawed Tribal National Volunteer extremists. The incident occurred near (Varangbadi) under Kalynapur police station in West Tripura last night. Official sources said five nontribals were still missing.

Parliament Welcomes Formation of SARC

BK091417 Delhi Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] The formation of the South Asian Associatoin for Regional Cooperation — SAARC [as heard] — was welcomed in the Lok Sabha today with members expressing the hope that it will usher in a new era of cooperation. Making a statement on the Dhaka summit, the external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, described it as a historic event. He told the House that India will host the next SAARC summit as it was the unanimous wish of all the other six heads of state and government who attended the Dhaka summit. A ministerial-level meeting on the welfare of women also will be held in New Delhi.

Mr Bhagat said that the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had made significant contribution to the success of the Dhaka meet and it was well recognized by the other leaders. Regular consultations by SAARC countries at very high levels, he said, would be a positive factor. He, however, cautioned not to under estimate the difficulties in promoting regional cooperation as the prejudices of the past and the differences in the perceptions have to be taken into account.

Mr Bhagat placed copies of the SAARC Charter and the Dhaka Declaration on the table of the House.

Initiating a discussion on the international situation and India's foreign policy, he said that the prime minister during the Dhaka summit had discussions with other leaders on both bilateral and multilateral issues. He informed the House that Mr Rajiv Gandhi discussed the problem of Chakma tribals in Tripura with President Ershad of Bangladesh. With President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan, the prime minister had talks on bilateral matters and the talks will be continued when President Zia comes to New Delhi on a day's visit on the 17th of this month.

The ethnic problem in Sri Lanka came up for discussion during the talks with President Jayewardene.

Mr Bhagat told the House that the prime minister has accepted the invitation to visit Maldives.

Hindu Group Threatens To Kill Pope During Visit

HK061446 Hong Kong AFP in English 1408 GMT 6 Dec 85

[Text] Bombay, India, Dec 6 (AFP) — A hitherto unknown Hindu organization calling itself the Divine Wheel has threatened to kill pope John Paul II when he visits India in February. "If you want to serve Christianity some more time you should not visit India at all," the organization said in a letter addressed to the Pope and published in the *FREE PRESS JOURNAL* here. "You should cancel your visit. If at at all you insist on visiting India, mind well, you will be finished, i.e. killed," it continued.

The writers said the unsigned letter was also sent to the Vatican.

The Roman Catholic Pope is scheduled to criss-cross India, visiting 10 cities and giving open air masses during his February 1-11 trip.

In Hindu mythology, the divine wheel has a special significance as its was used by the god Vishnu, who is considered to be the earth's protector.

The newspaper editor who received the letter was not available for comment. His office said they could not say where the letter had originated or if it had been given to the police for investigation.

Meanwhile, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, a non-political Hindu organization, today opposed the visit on the grounds that "Christian missionaires are working overtime trying to convert people, as India has emerged as a fertile grazing ground for them."

V.N. Thambe, joint secretary of the group's Bombay unit, said his group would not criticize the visit if the Pope recognized that "all religions are equal," but "if he comes here only to propagate his religion, then we will not tolerate it."

Afghan Assembly Member Flees to Pakistan

BK100407 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] Ms Parijin, a member of Afghanistan's Loya Jirga [Grand Assembly] from Seyyedabad, Badakhshan has crossed into Pakistan. In a radio interview she has said that the Loya Jirga convened by the Kabul administration in Kabul recently was only a ploy to win public support.

On the situation in Afghanistan, she says 95 per cent of the country is under mujahidin control. Parijin says she had to leave the country in order to evade arrest because the Karmal administration knows that her sympathies are with the mujahidin. She thanked the Government of Pakistan for giving asylum to Afghan citizens and for providing assistance to them on humanitarian grounds.

National Assembly Passes Political Parties Bill

BK091549 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The National Assembly approved the Political Parties Amendment Bill 1985 tonight. Addressing the House following the passage of the bill, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said that when he assumed office he had two objectives to pave the way for lifing of martial law. They were, to amend the Constitution, and to get the Political Parties Bill approved. The prime minister said that both the objectives have now been achieved, adding that the bill will be presented to the Senate tomorrow. He expressed the hope that the Senate will give early approval to the bill, thereby facilitating the lifting of martial law by the date announced by him.

Mohammad Khan Junejo said that although there is still scope to further improve the Political Parties Bill, we can not do so because time is short. He said that some necessary amendments will be presented to the House when political parties start functioning after the lifting of martial law. He said that the Pakistani people are looking at us with the hope of the beginning of a new democratic era after martial law is lifted. Most of the independent parliamentary group members walked out of the House a short while before the bill was passed.

The House session has now been adjourned until 1715 on the 22d of this month.

Delhi Reports Sikh Trial Begins in Lahore 9 Dec

BK100328 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] The trial began in Lahore yesterday of six Canadian Sikhs accused of assaulting two Indian diplomats on the 27th of last month. It may be recalled that the two Indian diplomats were attacked and injured near Lahore where they had gone to oversee arrangements made for Indian pilgrims.

Commerce Minister on Trade, Import Policy

GF060406 Karachi DAWN (Economic and Business Review supplement) in English 30 Nov p 1

[By Shaheen Sehbai]

[Excerpts] The government has finally opened its cards regarding the decision to start countertrading with Multinationals but the Federal Commerce Minister says it is just an experiment and may be dropped if things do not work out the way they are intended.

In a detailed interview with *DAWN ECONOMIC & BUSINESS REVIEW*, Mr Salim Saifullah Khan disclosed that an initial target of two billion dollars had been set for countertrade and three multinationals had been selected while another three or four were still to be picked up.

The minister also spoke about Pakistan's position vis-a-vis the fourth MFA [Multi-Fibre Arrangement], the latest developments in trade with India, trends in Pakistan's imports and exports, and negotiations with the United States.

Some excerpts:

Q: What has prompted the government to go for countertrade?
A: It is a mechanism which lots of countries are employing today and we are told that almost 10 percent of the global trade of $2,000 billion is being done through this instrument. Pakistan has certain limitations as far as international trade is concerned. We do not have the resources to be everywhere and in every market and be spending money on promotional work. In certain markets as a public sector it is very difficult to do promotional work. Through countertrade we feel not only will we be diversifying our exports but diversifying our market as well. This is one objective. Secondly, the proposal has now been approved at all levels of the government, including ECC [Economic Coordination Committee] and the prime minister, and we are going to start off with a number of firms which will be buying from us a blend of traditional and nontraditional goods.

Q: Can you name the parties selected and commodities to be traded?
A: We have three parties with which Memorandums of Understanding have been signed while formal agreements will be signed within two weeks. They are Sukab with which we already have been doing barter trade, the Gokals who have a European-based company and Mitsubishi of Japan. We intend to select a few more, say four or five. We are only signing one year contracts and we will be strictly monitoring the progress. It is very much possible that out of these eight we may drop some and bring in new ones.

Q: What is the total size envisaged?
A: With these three parties the total trade envisaged is of one billion dollars, half a billion each way. Another billion dollars will be contracted with the other four or five parties to be selected. We have identified a list of export and import items. We have tried to refine the agreements as much as we could. This is our first experiment and we are very open. In the next one year, there will be more changes, we will be modifying our agreements. The

list can also change. We will play by the year as we go. We want to make sure that we do not just market our traditional goods, we do not upset our existing markets, we do not import goods at high costs. These are things we are aware of. We will monitor them at the ministry level and will be reporting regularly to the ECC. With a country like ours with three billion dollars worth of exports and six billion imports, we have to find new markets, new ideas and also take bold initiatives. For the last four-five years we have not crossed the three billion mark.

Q: Pakistan has been offered trade-offs by developed countries for bilateral agreements. How have you reacted?
A: We have been closely watching the situation. Some countries have signed bilateral agreements with the United States but we have not made any such move.

Q: Regarding United States, our negotiatiors in the last round of bilateral talks were duped into accepting promises which were not fulfilled later. What are you doing not to repeat any such thing again?
A: We are aware of what has been happening around us. This is very crucial for Pakistan and has been getting top priority at all levels. We are attending all conferences, our embassies have been alerted about our stand and I can assure you that we would not be caught with our pants down. We will go into the talks with our ears and eyes open and will get a good deal for Pakistan.

Q: Has the government received any indication from the U.S. Government that Pakistan will be given any preferential treatment as far as the Jenkins Bill is concerned?
A: No such indication has been given.

Q: One point regarding United States is repeated very often and it is the treatment Pakistan gets in trade matters despite the fact that we are close political allies. Why is this so and does the Government raise this matter with U.S. officials?
A: You can see the trade figures with United States. In 1984 there was a substantial growth of our exports to U.S.A. The trend has continued in the last few months, specially in textiles. The exports have been more than reasonable. A good growth has been registered with United States and I do not foresee Pakistan not getting a preferential treatment.

Q: But in the past neither words nor deeds have shown this to be true?
A: We hope things will change. One can only hope. Our bilateral agreement extends upto end of 1986 so we have a year to discuss this.

Trade With India

Q: Recently the Finance minister has been to India and talking about improvement in trade. What scope do you see?
A: We feel that we are open to any new ideas as far as it is on a bilaterally, mutually beneficial level. India wants us to allow everything into Pakistan. We want it on a mutual basis.

Q: There is a list of about 40 items allowed to be imported from India, do you see any possibility of its expansion in view of the recent developments?
A: We are open. We have exchanged lists. We would like to see more trade with India but again I must emphasise that it has to be both ways. It has to be mutually beneficial. It cannot be one way. The next round of talks will be at the forum of the Ministerial Commission but we have a subcommission on trade which will further discuss the possibilities. We are very open and at the moment we have a trade of around 50 million dollars.

Q: Do you have a figure in mind to boost this up?
A: I cannot give you figures unless the framework is established.

Import Policy

Q: Is there any possibility of the Import Policy being revised in the mid-year?
A: Instead of having an annual meeting of the Advisory Council, this year we will have two such meetings. In December I will call presidents of all the chambers of commerce to review the import policy and find ways and means to improve the working. Formal work for the new import policy will start sometime in February.

Q: Should any change in the Import policy be expected in December then?
A: There would be a review. Maybe we take some administrative measures to remove difficulties being faced by importers. A major policy change cannot be expected but some adjustments can be made. Major changes are done when the new policy is announced.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene Returns, Accompanied by Maldives Leader

BK091059 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Excerpts] President and Mrs J.R. Jayewardene arrived at Katunayake International Airport around 1220 [0650 GMT] today after attending the 7-nation summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, which concluded in Dhaka yesterday.

President of the Maldives Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, who came with President Jayewardene, is on a transit visit on his way back home.

Pakistan's Ziaul Haq Arrives for Official Visit

HK101015 Hong Kong AFP in English 0826 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Colombo, Dec 10 (AFP) — Pakistani President Mohammed Ziaul Haq arrived here today for an official visit which is expected to strengthen bilateral ties.

General Zia, accompanied by Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan, Finance Minister Mahbubul Haz and several senior officials, was given a warm welcome as he drove from the airport to President Junius Jayewardene's house in Colombo.

He was greeted by the Sri Lankan president after receiving a 21-gun salute. Gen. Zia also inspected a guard of honour in a gaily-decorated central street.

The two presidents are to hold official talks later today, which are expected to cover a variety of international and regional issues.

These include a review of the first summit of the seven-nation South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SARC) in Dhaka, which ended sunday and was attended by both leaders. Gen. Zia travelled directly from Dhaka to Colombo.

They are also expected to discuss the twin problems of terrorism and drug trafficking.

Gen. Zia is due to leave Colombo Sunday.

Karachi Report

BK101141 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq was accorded a warm welcome when he arrived in Colombo today on a 4-day official visit to Sri Lanka. He was received at the airport by the Sri Lankan minister for awqaf, Mr M.H. Mohamed. The president then drove in a motorcade to the Presidential Palace. The entire route passing through lush green surroundings was thronged by large crowds at vantage points. A large number of school children in their uniforms waved the national flags of the two countries to greet the president. The entire route was decorated with banners welcoming the president as well as the slogans of "Long Live Pakistan-Sri Lanka Friendship."

Radio Pakistan's representative reports from Colombo as the president arrived at the presidential palace, he was warmly greeted by President Jayewardene who warmly shook hands with him. The Sri Lankan prime minister and foreign minister were also present.

Earlier, on his departure from Dhaka at the end of 4-day visit to Bangladesh, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq was seen off by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and Mrs Raushan Ershad. As the president arrived at the airport, an honor guard of the Bangladesh Armed Forces presented salute and national anthems of the two countries were played. The president then inspected the guard of honor. The two presidents warmly shook hands and embraced each other as the Pakistan president boarded his special plane.

Talking to newsmen on board his special plane, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said his visit to Sri Lanka would further strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries. He said he would hold wide-ranging talks with the Sri Lankan president, including bilateral, regional, and international matters.

Commenting on his visit to Bangladesh, the president said there is vast scope to expand bilateral relations not only on government level but also at the level of the people. He said conducive atmosphere existed to improve relations between the two countries at people-to-people level. In his view, he said, exchange of people between the two countries, exchange of journalists, newspapers, and businessmen would go a long way in establishing cordial and deep-rooted friendly relations between the two countries.

About his forthcoming visit to New Delhi, he said he would be meeting the Indian prime minister and it was expected that they would be able to touch on substantial issues between the two countries during this meeting.

President: Militants Who Reject Peace To Be Crushed

HK100758 Hong Kong AFP in English 0640 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Colombo, Dec 10 (AFP) — President Junius Jayewardene has said that Tamil "terrorists" must be crushed if they are not interested in a peaceful solution to Sri Lanka's problems, the Island Newspaper said today.

Militant Tamil separatists campaigning for a separate state in the north and east of Sri Lanka are "waging war against an elected government," Mr Jayewardene said in an interview with the newspaper.

He said that next year would be "crucial" in terms of finding a solution to the problem, which has claimed at least 1,500 lives in the past two and a half years.

"How long can this present situation be tolerated. If they do not want a solution, the terrorists must be crushed," he added.

Mr Jayewardene was speaking on his return from the first summit of the seven-nation South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SARC) in Dhaka, which ended Sunday.

He said that a summit decision to set up a study group to examine the problem of terrorism was of "crucial importance to the future of the region," adding that the need to take a "united stand against terrorism" has been fully endorsed by India.

The leaders of the major Tamil militant groups are living in voluntary exile in India's southern state of Tamil Nadu.

Sri Lanka has charged that they operate training camps and even bases there for attacks against the security forces here, an allegation which New Delhi has denied.

India has been acting as mediator in peace talks between the Colombo government and the major militant groups.

Colombo has offered a plan for a settlement which would not involve linking Sri Lanka's northern and eastern provinces.

But the main Tamil political party, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), has presented counter-proposals to New Delhi calling for an amalgamation of the two provinces, which the Tamils claim as their traditional homeland.

President Jayewardene today reaffirmed that there was no question of an amalgamation of the two regions.

"The question of linkage is out," he told the Island. "The eastern province did not vote for (TULF Leader) Amirthalingam's stand in 1977 (when TULF entered a general eleciton on the separatist platform.)

"If he feels things are different, then we can test it at democratic elections."

In the latest violence, two Tamil militants were killed and two soldiers slightly wounded when separatists attacked an army patrol at Navatkuly in northern Jaffna yesterday, security sources said.

Meanwhile, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali today dismissed a charge made by Mr Amirthalingam in India yesterday that "hundreds of Tamil youths are being arrested and tortured" by the security forces.

"Why have complaints not been made to the ceasefire monitoring committee?" he said, referring to a multiracial group that is supervising the latest ceasefire between major militant groups and the Colombo Government.

Mr Athulathmudali also said that the SARC study group on terrorism was expected to meet in New Delhi before the end of December.

He said it would begin work in January and submit a report to SARC foreign ministers in March.

Velayati Terms Talks in Saudi Arabia 'Satisfactory'

GF100610 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit and IRNA, yesterday afternoon on the last day of Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati's visit to Saudi Arabia, the foreign ministers of the two countries held their third round of talks on regional matter, international issues, and conditions in the Third World.

According to this report, in addition to evaluating the results of Mr Velayati's last discussions with Saudi officials, bilateral relations and grounds for joint cooperation between the two countries and ways to expand these also were discussed.

This report indicates that Mr Velayati, following his last round of talks with the Saudi foreign minister, left Riyadh yesterday afternoon. Reports received from Riyadh say that at the conclusion of his visit to Saudi Arabic, Mr. Velayati said his talks with Saudi officials were satisfactory [reza'yat-bakhsh].

The Central News Unit report says Mr Velayati stopped off in Abu Dhabi for a short visit to the UAE on en route to Tehran. Upon his arrival in the UAE, Mr Velayati was welcomed by UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Abdallah 'Ali Rashid an-Nu'aymi, the Iranian ambassador, and other UAE officials.

We remind you that the UAE, due to historic reasons and because of centuries of trade ties with Iran, has close ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

IRNA Report

LD092005 Tehran IRNA in English 1918 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 9, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Abu Dhabi for a short stop Monday evening at the conclusion of his two-day visit to Riyadh. In the Saudi capital, Velayati met and conferred with King Fahd and high-level Saudi officials on latest developments in the region. Velayati was guest to the Saudi foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

In Abu Dhabi, the Iranian minister met and held talks with the UAE Foreign Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs [title as received] Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi.

Velayati is also to submit a message from Iran's President Khamene'i to the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Shaykh Zayed ibn Sultan al-Nahayyan.

Iraqi Spies Arrested, Blamed for Tehran Bombings

LD091449 Tehran IRNA in English 1435 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbaijan Prov, Dec 9, IRNA — An official at the information office for West Azarbaijan and Kurdestan Provinces announced here Sunday that a number of counterrevolutioanries and Iraqi spies involved in recent bomb explosions in Tehran were arrested and two powerful bombs due to be sent to Tehran were discovered in west Azarbaijan Province, during the past two weeks.

The official, at a press conference here, added that the plotters were financially supported by the Baghdad regime and added that more counterrevolutionaries have been identified in this connection.

Stressing full control of Islamic combatants over the activities of counterrevolutionaries in the region, the official warned agents who are collaborating with counterrevolutionaries to surrender and report to information offices.

He said that during the past few months fatal blows were dealt on the establishments of terrorists in Saein-Dejin, W. Azarbaijan Province in which a large amount of ammunition was also seized.

Referring to the increasing number of penitent counterrevolutionaries, the official said that so far 8,300 member of anti-revolutionary groups have repented. He stressed that foreign espionage organisations which had mobilised counterrevolutionary groups against the Islamic Republic of Iran had failed in their plots. He added that many counterrevolutionary leaders, including three founders of the outlawed Komaleh Party, and a number of leading number of leading figures of the defunct Kurdestan Democratic Party have so far surrendered and received letters of pardon.

Khamene'i Meets With Military, Religious Leaders

LD091600 Tehran IRNA in English 1556 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 9, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i received here Monday political and religious officials, and discussed with them current issues of the country.

The officials who met the president were Minister of Defence Colonel Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali, Friday prayers leader of Sabzevar in Khorasan Province Hojjal ol-Eslem Abdoust, and chief of the ministerial bureaus.

Reportage on Visit of CSSR Minister Pavol Bahyl

Arrives, Welcomed by Nabavi

LD061705 Tehran IRNA in English 1356 GMT 6 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 6 IRNA — Czechoslovak Industry Minister, Pavol Bahyl [title as received] at the head of an economic delegation arrived here Friday and was received by Iran's Minister of Heavy Industries, Behzad Nabavi at Mehrabad International Airport. The Czech delegation is to study technological and industrial cooperation with Iran during its stay here.

On the objective of the visit, Behzad Nabavi said that the visit is in response to a visit of an Iranian delegation at Prague last year during which the two countries signed an industrial protocol. He added that ways for better exploitation of industrial units such as Arak machine manufacturing company and Tabriz industrial research center for heavy industries will be discussed with the Czech delegation here.

Nabavi further said that volume of trade between Iran and Czechoslovakia was dolloars 180 million in 1985.

Bahyl said the Czech delegation was here to follow up the protocol signed between the two countries as well as to review expansion of mutual cooperation between Tehran and Prague.

Received by Musavi

LD071259 Tehran IRNA in English 1234 GMT 7 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — The visiting Czech minister of industry, Pavol Bahyl, met and talked with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi, here Saturday morning. During the meeting Bahyl conveyed greetings of the Czech prime minister to Premier Musavi and discussed ways of expansion of mutual industrial cooperation.

The prime minister referring to positive effects of such visits on expansion of mutual relations, added that protocols signed during such visits should be followed up seriously.

Meanwhile, in a separate meeting here Saturday morning with the Iranian minister of heavy industries, Behzad Nabavi, Bahyl discussed expansion of industrial and technical cooperation, supply of spare parts and service for the machineries, and training of Iranian personnel.

Nabavi expressed Iran's interest in selling industrial goods to Czechoslovakia and said that such goods were of high standards and were priced reasonably. He further stressed that Iran did not want its exports to be limited to oil and his proposal was welcomed by the Czech official.

During the meeting it was decided to set up three committees to remove obstacles on the way of implementation of a joint protocol signed last year.

The meeting was attended by a number of industrial officials of Iran and also the Czech ambassador to Tehran, Miroslav Oplt.

The Czech minister arrived here Friday heading an economic delegation.

Discusses Protocol With Officials

LD072224 Tehran IRNA in English 1825 GMT 7 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — The visiting Czech Minister of Industry Pavol Bahyl met and exchanged views with Deputy Minister of Industries M. Jamshid here Saturday afternoon on the details of an economic protocol signed earlier between the two countries. In the meeting, both sides expressed interest in removing obstacles blocking the execution of the protocol.

Czech minister announced that the weaving knitting machineries ordered by the Islamic Republic would be delivered shortly and that his country is ready to accept Iran's offers within the framework of barter exchanges between the two countries.

The Islamic Republic of Iran emphasized that Czech's non-oil imports from Iran reach the dls. 20m level as earlier agreed upon between the two countries.

Meets Agriculture Minister

LD072220 Tehran IRNA in English 1658 GMT 7 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — The visiting Czech industries minister, Pavol Bahyl met with the Iranian Agriculture Minister 'Ali 'Abbas Zali here Saturday. During the meeting, the two sides discussed expansion of cooperation in various fields of agricultural machinery, exchange of seeds, experts as well as fisheries, and utilization of pastures.

The Czech minister arrived here Friday heading an economic delegation.

Confers With Energy Minister

LD082235 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 8 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 8, IRNA — The visiting Czech minister of industry Pavol Bahyl met and conferred with Iranian Minister of Energy Mohammad Taqi Banki here Sunday. In the meeting, bilateral cooperation in the area of water and energy projects were discussed both sides expressing hope that such cooperation would even further develop in the future.

Meanwhile, Dutch ambassador to Tehran J.C.TH. Bast met and conferred with Banki here Sunday in a separate meeting with him at which they discussed future cooperation between Iran and the Netherlands.

The Czech minister arrived here Friday heading an economic delegation.

Concludes Talks, Departs

LD091147 Tehran IRNA in English 1028 GMT 9 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec 9, IRNA — The Czech minister of industry, Pavol Bahyl, left Tehran Monday morning following a three-day visit and talks with the Iranian officials. The Czech minister was seen off at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport by the Irnaian minister of heavy industries, Behzad Nabavi.

The Czech minister in his talks with Iranian officials discussed further expansion of bilateral relations, technical cooperation and also export of Iranian industrial products to Czechoslovakia.

U.S.-UK 'Strike Policy' Aimed at Helping Iraq

LD081118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Dec 85

[Text] Quoting its correspondents from its Asian-European section, the Central News Unit reports that the Iranian people's enthusiastic rush to the battlefronts to fight the aggressive enemy has led to profound anxiety within West European politico-Diplomatic circles.

The Central News Unit reports that to prevent the defeat of the aggressive Saddam regime, the United States and Britain have implemented a strike policy. According to this policy, support for the Iraqi regime will continue as usual in its military aspect. As for the policy's propaganda and psychological aspects, the speeding up of the approval of a proposal submitted by the UN Human Rights Commission at the UN General Assembly against the Islamic Revolution, creating disturbances and rioting in Iranian cities in the form of obstructionist movements, and similar measures aimed at distracting the Iranian people's attention from the warfronts as well as their preoccupation with other problems within cities, are among this policy.

The Central News Unit further reports that, according to political experts, it is unlikely for this U.S.-UK policy to succeed, for the people's political maturity and Iran's organizational and executive capabilities are stronger than that assessed by Western experts.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Units 'Smashed'

LD101143 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful.

This morning, in continuation of successive penetration operations by our soldiers of God (Jondollah) against the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi forces, the combatants of Islam, in a limited offensive codenamed "Ya Imam Rida Adrekni," attacked the positions of the aggressive enemy in the Sar-e Pole-e zahab-Qasr-e Shirin border region. In a battle lasting over 3 hours they smashed a number of units from the 423d Brigade of the Iraqi regime's 21st infantry-mountain division stationed on Height No 542, overlooking the (Qare Kuh) River between (Dar Khur) and (Baba Hadi) border posts in the Sar-e Pole-e Zahab-Qasr-e Shirin border region.

According to our correspondent in the area, from 0200 today, unts of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Basij forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps crossed barbed wire, defused minefields, neutralized lighted traps [as heard], and opened up several routes in various directions. They assaulted the heart of the Zionist enemy's positions and fortifications on Height No 542, destroying enemy units and disrupting his defense formation. Using the principle of surprise attack, they destroyed 15 bunkers, a tank, and an enemy munition dump, and killed or wounded over 40 aggressive enemy troops. The report notes that the forces involved in these operations, having achieved the predetermined objectives, returned victorious to their bases under a torrent of covering fire by the army of Islam.

The Central News Unit, Bakhtaran.

Communique No 2,315

LD101546 Tehran IRNA In English 1532 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec 10, IRNA — Iran's jet fighters bombarded Iraq's al 'Amarah garrison at 12.30 hours (0900 hours GMT) Tuesday, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the armed forces here Tuesday.

In its Communique Number 2315, the Command says that Iranian jet fighters attacked a concentration center of Iraqi forces on returning to their bases, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy. All the planes returned to their bases safely.

In the western fronts, the Joint Staff says Iranian Muslim fighters pounded Iraqi positions on Monday, killing a number of Iraqi troops, destroying several enemy artillery pieces and various vehicles and setting fire to scores of Iraqi artillery positions and observation posts.

Iranian artillery returned fire on an Iraqi patrol unit in an area overlooking Qasr-e Shirin at 19:30 hours (16:00 hours GMT) Monday, according to the military communique.

Iran's Gendarmerie forces inflicted considerable casualties and damage on Iraqi troops in Ilam over the past 24 hours, as Muslim combatants were halting an Iraqi armoured unit around Anjirah on Monday.

Exchange of fire continued in the northwestern fronts raging somewhat more heavily in Sar Dasht on Monday, says the communique.

Iraq's long-range artillery fire hit the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province Monday causing damage in the city.

Iraqi Aircraft Bomb Hoveyzeh

LD101512 Tehran IRNA in English 1509 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov. Dec. 10, IRNA — Iraqi planes bombed Hoveyzeh, 100 km west of here Tuesday martyring at least 14 and wounding 28.

The planes dropped their bombs on two parts of the town and its vicinities. The martyrs included four Arab Iranians, eight construction workers, one woman and a child. The wounded have been hospitalized. 13 newly built houses were also damaged.

On November 14 Iraq bombed two industrial units in Ahvaz where a group of workers were martyred and some wounded.

A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters said Iraq's air raid on Hoveyzeh will not go unanswered. He said the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic has reported the incident to Secretary General of the United Nations and has called on him to send a delegation to inspect the bombed areas.

Iran has repeatedly protested Iraqi air raids on non-military targets to the world body. Iran retaliated Iraqi attacks on civilian quarters in the fourth year of the war as the Iraqi raids were becoming more frequent.